

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-07

INFO OCT-01 CCO-00 RSC-01 FILE-01 SSO-00 ADP-00 EUR-06

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DRAFTED BY: S/ S- O: DFINNERTY

APPROVED BY: S/ S- O: KKURZE

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MANAGUA IMMEDIATE

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TOSEC 18

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO EC BRUSSELS OECD PARIS
FROM THE HAGUE MAY 14

QUOTE

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E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: ENGR, OECD

SUBJECT: DUTCH REACTIONS TO U. S. ENERGY STATEMENTS;
TREATMENT OF ENERGY IN OECD MINISTERIAL

REF: PRESIDENT'S ENERGY MESSAGE, APRIL 18; UNDER
SECRETARY CASEY'S STATEMENT TO SENATE COMMIT-
TEE, MAY 1; OECD PARIS 12118

SUMMARY

WE DISCUSSED ENERGY MESSAGE, UNDERSEC STATEMENT, AND PROS-
PECTS FOR ENERGY DISCUSSION AT OECD MINISTERIAL WITH
WANSINK, DIR. GEN. ENERGY, AND DEPUTY DIR. GEN. VAN RHIJN
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MAY 9. THEIR COMMENTS REFLECTED STRONG SUPPORT FOR INTERNATIONAL ENERGY COOPERATION SHORT OF CONCERTED ACTION AGAINST OPEC, AND APPRECIATION OF POSITION TAKEN BY PRESIDENT AND UNDER SEC. IDEA OF U. S. COAL EXPORTS TO REDUCE DEMAND FOR OIL WAS BROUGHT UP. WANSINK SAYS MINISTERIAL SHOULD DISCUSS ENERGY BUT LIMIT DISCUSSION TO GENERAL TERMS WITH OBJECT OF GIVING IT PRIORITY FOR WORK BY COMMITTEES. END SUMMARY.

1. REFLECTING PREVIOUS COMMENTS, WANSINK SAID HE WAS RELIEVED AND PLEASED THAT PRESIDENT HAD SUPPORTED INTERNATIONAL CONSUMER COOPERATION IN HIS ENERGY MESSAGE, SINCE TO IGNORE THIS SUBJECT WOULD HAVE GIVEN GREEN LIGHT TO DIVISION OF MARKET AND DISASTROUS COMPETITION FOR RESOURCES. HE FELT HOWEVER, THAT SUBJECT HAD BEEN REGRETTABLY DOWNPLAYED BY BRIEF ATTENTION PAID TO IT ONLY AT END OF MESSAGE. WHILE ACKNOWLEDGEING THAT MESSAGE WAS PRIMARILY FOR DOMESTIC CONSUMPTION, HE OPINED IT WOULD HAVE BEEN BENEFICIAL TO PLAY SUBJECT UP IN ORDER TO IMPRESS ON AMERICAN PUBLIC THE RELATIVE IMPORTANCE OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION.

2. WANSINK FELT, ON OTHER HAND, THAT UNDERSEC CASEY HAD IN EFFECT RETRIEVED THE BALL BY HIS TREATMENT OF COOPERATION QUESTION. HE WELCOMED STRONG TERMS USED BY UNDERSEC (E. G. " BALKANIZATION OF OIL MARKET") AND DEPTH OF HIS DISCUSSION OF PROBLEMS AND ALTERNATIVES. HE ESPECIALLY APPRECIATED RECOGNITION BY BOTH PRESIDENT AND UNDERSEC OF ROLE OECD ALREADY PLAYING IN COOPERATION FIELD. HE STRONGLY SUPPORTED POSITION TAKEN BY BOTH AGAINST ADOPTION OF ANTI- OPEC POLICIES BY COOPERATING CONSUMER GOVERNMENTS.

3. VAN RHIJN BROUGHT UP SUBJECT OF IMPORTANCE OF U. S. COAL SUPPLY NOT ONLY FOR DOMESTIC USE BUT ALSO FOR POSSIBLE EXPORT TO EUROPE TO HELP RELIEVE OIL DEMAND. THIS WOULD BE IN ADDITION TO EUROPEAN USE OF COKING COAL, OF WHICH U. S. IS ALREADY MAIN SUPPLIER. HE SUGGESTED THAT THOUGHT BE GIVEN TO DEVELOPING U. S. COAL MINES WITH EXPORT AS WELL AS DOMESTIC USE IN MIND. (LAST DUTCH COAL MINE WILL CLOSE AT END THIS YEAR OWING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TO HIGHLY INEFFICIENT PRODUCTION CONDITIONS).

4. RE OECD MINISTERIAL, WANSINK CONSIDERED IT NOT ONLY HELPFUL BUT NECESSARY TO HAVE ENERGY ON AGENDA; TO BE SILENT ON SUCH PERVASIVE INTERNATIONAL PROBLEM WOULD BE DANGEROUSLY OUT OF TOUCH WITH REALITY. MINISTERIAL SHOULD NOT GET INTO SPECIFICS, HOWEVER, SINCE PREPARA-

TIONS NEEDED FROM OIL COMMITTEE WOULD NOT BE AVAILABLE
AND UNPREPARED POSITIONS OR DECISIONS COULD SERIOUSLY
DAMAGE COMMON INTERESTS. WANSINK HOPED THAT GENERAL DISCUSSION
IN MINISTERIAL WOULD RESULT IN AND BE CONFINED TO
FOLLOWING:

- A) PUT OECD ON RECORD IN SUPPORT OF INTERNATIONAL
COOPERATION;
- B) STIMULATE APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES -- OIL, ENERGY,
POSSIBLY TRANSPORT, ENVIRONMENT-- TO GET BUSY ON
COOPERATIVE PLANS;
- C) ATTACH APPROPRIATE PRIORITY TO ENERGY QUESTION,
POSSIBLY LEADING TO STRENGTHENED SECRETARIAT SERVICES
FOR OIL AND ENERGY COMMITTEES; AND
- D) CLEARLY OPPOSE ANY ANTI- OPEC POSITIONS.

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UNQUOTE RUSH

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts:
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 MAY 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973STATE091323
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: O: DFINNERTY
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: n/a
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: SECSTATE WASHDC
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730543/aaaajdwx.tel
Line Count: 133
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 JAN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23-Jan-2002 by shawdg>; APPROVED <25 FEB 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> gwr 980211
Subject: DUTCH REACTIONS TO U. S. ENERGY STATEMENTS;
TAGS: ENGR, NU, OECD
To: MANAGUA
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005